Elon Berk, Esq. [SBN 209642]

GUROVICH, BERK & ASSOCIATES, APC 1 2 15250 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1220 Sherman Oaks, California 91403 3 Tel: (818) 205-1555 Fax: (818) 205-1559 4 Attorney for Defendant Andrey kuzenny 5 6 7 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 8 EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 9 10 11 In re: Case No.: 18-03197 FPC 11 GIGA WATT, a Washington [Assigned to the Hon. Fredrick P. 12 Corporation Corbit for all purposes] 13 Debtor Adv. Case No.: 20-80031 14 MARK D. WALDRON, Chapter 7 Trustee) ANSWER OF **DEFENDANT** ANDREY 15 KUZENNY TO COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES Plaintiffs, 16 17 PERKINS COIE, LLP, et al. 18 Defendants. 19 20 21 COMES NOW Defendant ANDREY KUZENNY (hereinafter "KUZENNY"), by 22 and through counsel, and in Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint, states 23 and alleges as follows: 24 25 Defendant KUZENNY admits the allegations contained in 26 Paragraphs 1 and 37 of Plaintiff's Complaint. 27 Defendant KUZENNY has insufficient information upon which to 28 form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in

VERIFIED ANSWER

paragraphs 2, 6, 7, 12, 13, 18 through 33, 35, 36, 38, 40 through 62, 64, and 65 of Plaintiff's Complaint, and therefore denies the same.

- 3. Defendant KUZENNY invokes his privilege against self-incrimination as guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States as to allegations contained in paragraphs 8 through 11, 14 through 17, 34, 39, 63 and 66 of Plaintiff's Complaint and therefore cannot admit nor deny such allegations.
- 4. KUZENNY is not a named Defendant in the First, Second and
 Thrid Causes of Action and, therefore, is not responding to Paragraphs
 67 through 86 of Plaintiff's Complaint.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- 1. Plaintiff's Complaint, and each purported cause of action therein, fail to state a cause of action upon which relief can be granted against Defendant KUZENNY.
- 2. Plaintiff's Complaint, and each purported cause of action therein, is barred by the doctrines of acquiescence, waiver, laches and estoppel.
- 3. Defendant KUZENNY acted reasonably and in good faith at all times material herein based upon all relevant facts and circumstances known by it at the time it so acted and, accordingly, Plaintiff is barred from recovery for this action and each purported cause of action asserted therein.
- 4. Defendant KUZENNY is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that the matters complained of in Plaintiff's Complaint, and in each purported cause of action therein, were

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proximately caused by the acts or omissions of third parties other than Defendant KUZENNY.

- Defendant KUZENNY is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that Plaintiff has failed and continues to fail to take any steps reasonably necessary to mitigate its damages, if in fact it has sustained any damages, which Defendant KUZENNY denies.
- 6. Complaint, and each purported cause of action therein, fails to state facts sufficient to allege the existence of or the breach of any legal duty or obligation, if any, owed by Defendant KUZENNY to Plaintiff.
- 7. Defendant KUZENNY is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that any damage or injuries sustained by Plaintiff, if any there be, are a consequence of a known risk voluntarily and knowingly undertaken by Plaintiff and Plaintiff is barred from recovery thereof.
- Even if Defendant KUZENNY be found to have acted as alleged 8. in the Complaint, each purported cause of action therein, such conduct was justified, excused and/or privileged.
- Defendant KUZENNY at all times material to the Complaint herein acted in good faith.
- Plaintiff failed to perform the required conditions precedent as to each purported cause of action in the Complaint.
- 11. Complaint, and each purported cause of action therein, fails to state facts sufficient to constitute a claim against Defendant KUZENNY for costs and/or fees.
- An award of exemplary or punitive damages in this case would be violative of the due process clause of the United States Constitution, including for the reasons that such damages are awarded

in a vague and arbitrary manner, without any upper limit, and without 1 2 the application of proper standards and guidelines. Any award of 3 exemplary or punitive damages in excess of or disproportionate to legislatively established punishments for similar conduct if further 4 5 vocative of the due process protections of the United States 6 Constitution. 7 8 WHEREFORE, Defendant KUZENNY prays that this Court deny 9 Plaintiff's Complaint in its entirety, grant judgment in favor of 10 Defendant KUZENNY, grant Defendant KUZENNY its costs incurred herein, 11 and for any other relief that this Court deems just and proper. 12 13 Dated: January 7, 2021 Respectfully Submitted, GUROVICH, BERK & ASSOCIATES 14 /s/ Elon Berk By: Elon Berk, Esq. Attorney for Defendant 15 Andrey Kuzenny 16 17 18 **VERIFICATION** 19 I, Andrey Kuzenny, hereby verify and declare under penalty of perjury 20 that I have read the foregoing Verified Answer to Verified Complaint and know the contents thereof, and that the matters contained in the 2122 Answer are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. 23 I hereby verify and declare under penalty of perjury that the

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Date: January 7, 2021

foregoing is true and correct.

Andrey Kuzenny